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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/915,434	07/26/2001	Elmootazbellah Nabil Elnozahy	AUS920010136US1	7374

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EXAMINER

COURTENAY III, ST JOHN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2126

DATE MAILED: 06/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/915,434

Applicant(s)

ELNOZAHY, ELMOOTAZBELLAH  
NABIL

Examiner

St. John Courtenay III

Art Unit

2126

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 July 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 July 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

ST. JOHN COURTENAY III  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

### Detailed Action

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1- 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by **Aggarwal et al.** (U.S. Patent 5,924,116).

#### As per independent claims 1, 11 & 21:

**Aggarwal** teaches a method for responding to a client request for an object in a data processing network, comprising:

- determining whether a static object form response corresponding to the requested object is available [see col. 8, line 42: "FIG. 4 depicts an example of the object request handler (160). As depicted, in step 410 the proxy checks if the requested object is in its local cache/buffer." ],
- responsive to determining that a form response is available, updating a header in the form response based on the client request [see col. 8, line 42: "FIG. 4 depicts an example of the object request handler (160). As depicted, in step 410 the proxy checks if the requested object is in its local cache/buffer. If found in the local cache, in step 415, the CHL value of the object to communicate down the hierarchy is determined. An example of a method to derive the CHL value will be discussed with reference to FIG. 11. In step 420, the CHL value is then inserted into the object header. Preferably, the CHL value is inserted into the HTTP response header as the PICS category value of the "caching hierarchy" label. In step 425, the object (with its

associated header) is communicated to the lower level requester." -- See also request and response header discussion col. 6, line 25; see also HTTP HEAD request to retrieve an object header, col. 12, lines 9-17],

responsive to determining that a form response is not available, generating a response to the client request by retrieving the requested object and performing network protocol processing on the retrieved object [see col. 8, line 59: "In step 410, if the object is not found in the local cache, the auxiliary stack (125) is checked, in step 430. If not present in the stack, the proxy has no caching information on that object in the proxy hierarchy and in step 435, the object is requested from the next higher level proxy. If in step 430, the object is found in the auxiliary stack (125), in step 440 the CHL value is (128) examined to determine if it is cached at higher level proxy in the hierarchy. If so, in step 460, the object request may be sent to the closest proxy in the hierarchy with the caching status on as indicated by the CHL value. If in step 440, the object is indicated as not cached at any higher level proxy, in step 450 the object request may be sent to the source web location directly. The request may still be routed through the intermediate proxy servers in the higher level hierarchy." ];

- generating a form response indicative of the generated response and storing the form response for use in responding to a subsequent request for the object [see the caching [see col. 8, line 49: "Preferably, the CHL value is inserted into the HTTP response header as the PICS category value of the "caching hierarchy" label. In step 425, the object (with its associated header) is communicated to the lower level requester." ].

### **As per dependent claims 2, 12 & 22:**

**Aggarwal** inherently teaches generating the request response comprises generating a set of packets formatted according to a network protocol [see HTTP discussion col. 12, beginning line 6].

**As per dependent claims 3, 13 & 23:**

**Aggarwal** teaches the network protocol is a TCP/IP protocol [col. 1, line 34; see also col. 2, lines 45-47].

**As per dependent claims 4, 14 & 24:**

**Aggarwal** teaches generating the form response further includes inserting at least one blank header field into the set of packets [e.g., see setting a CHL value of zero (i.e., equivalent to a "blank" header field, col. 11, line 25] .

**As per dependent claims 5, 15 & 25:**

**Aggarwal** teaches determining whether a form response is available includes accessing a static object directory indicative of the contents of a static object database [e.g., see "In step 410, if the object is not found in the local cache, the auxiliary stack (125) is checked", and associated discussion col. 8, lines 59-60, with the "auxiliary stack (125)" being equivalent to the claimed "static object directory"].

**As per dependent claims 6, 16 & 26:**

**Aggarwal** teaches wherein storing the form response comprises storing the form response in the static object database and updating the static object directory to reflect the inclusion of the form response in the database [see "auxiliary stack" that contains the identity of each object and its caching status, col. 4, discussion beginning line 12].

**As per dependent claims 7, 19 & 29:**

**Aggarwal** teaches, responsive to a subsequent request for the object, generating a response to the subsequent request from the form response [col. 3, line 50 – i.e., returning the requested object in response to a request for the requested object].

**As per dependent claims 8, 20 & 30:**

**Aggarwal** teaches generating the subsequent response includes updating header fields of the form response [see request and response header discussion col. 6, line 25; see also HTTP HEAD request to retrieve an object header, col. 12, lines 9-17].

**As per dependent claims 9, 17 & 27:**

**Aggarwal** teaches at least a portion of the static object database is stored in main memory, as **Aggarwal** teaches the extensive use of object caches, which are necessarily implemented in memory [see “Main Cache 110” shown in fig 2a and associated discussion col. 8, lines 22-25 – “Those skilled in the art will appreciate that the present invention is equally applicable to either method (or combination thereof) and may be used either for main memory (110) or disk caching (105)” ].

**As per dependent claims 10, 18 & 28:**

**Aggarwal** teaches at least a portion of the static object database is stored on disk [see “Disk 105” shown in Fig. 2a and associated discussion col. 7, line 39; see col. 8, lines 22-25 – “Those skilled in the art will appreciate that the present invention is equally applicable to either method (or combination thereof) and may be used either for main memory (110) or disk caching (105)” ].

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**Prior Art not relied upon:**

Please refer to the references listed on the attached PTO-892 which are not relied upon in the claim rejections detailed above.

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## **How to Contact the Examiner:**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to **St. John Courtenay III** whose voice telephone number is **(703) 308-5217**. A voice mail service is also available at this number. Normal Flex work schedule: M – F 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

- **All responses sent by U.S. Mail should be mailed to:**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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### **Patent Customers advised to FAX communications to the USPTO**

**<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/faxnotice.pdf>**

**Effective Oct. 15, 2003, ALL patent application correspondence transmitted by FAX must be directed to the new PTO central FAX number:**

**NEW PTO CENTRAL FAX NUMBER:  
703-872-9306**


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- Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the **TC 2100 Group receptionist: (703) 305-3900.**

**Please direct inquiries regarding fees, paper matching, and other issues not involving the Examiner to:**

**Technical Center 2100 CUSTOMER SERVICE: 703 306-5631**

The Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) is available online at:

**<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/mpep/index.html>**

  
**ST. JOHN COURTENAY III  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

First Office Action – Paper #2